

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Cool temperatures finally hit the State with most counties reporting the first fall frost and freezing temperatures. Although cooler, conditions were generally very suitable for field work during the day with little rain to report. The average temperature across the State was 45.4 degrees, which is 2.4 degrees below normal. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Crescent City, down to 5 degrees in Christmas Valley. High temperatures ranged from 59 degrees in La Grande, up to 72 degrees in Pendleton. Twenty-four stations reported measurable precipitation, most of those in the Willamette Valley or on the Coast. These two regions averaged about 0.52 inches of precipitation, whereas the rest of the State averaged 0.07 inches. Detroit Lake reported the most of 1.28 inches followed by Astoria at 0.96 inches.

Field Crops: Some ground preparation for fall grains and cover crops was still being done in Jackson County. Haying in Jackson and Harney counties was mostly done. Washington County clover seeding looked good, and field corn for silage finished. Corn harvest continued in Umatilla and Malheur counties. Sherman County reported a surprising number of acres had yet to be seeded, while Umatilla seeding was all but done with a few wet areas to be left unseeded.

Vegetables: Most summer vegetables were done for the season, and some fall vegetables were still being harvested.

Some cold nights at or near freezing levels finished off what was left of the summer vegetables and damaged some of the un-protected fall vegetables. Cruciferous crops seemed to escape the cold damage. Sweet corn for cannery finally finished in Washington County. Lane County had a good pumpkin crop.

Fruits and Nuts: Wine grape harvest continued. Douglas County reported heavy frost and some freezing temperatures hit late developing wine grapes. Clackamas County experienced sunny afternoons that raised sugar levels in the grapes. Hazelnut harvest continued. Lane County reported that hazelnut yields seemed mediocre. Apple harvest continued but was nearing the end. Winter pear harvest continued in the Hood River Valley.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses were working on holiday decorative plants and fall maintenance. Nurseries were getting out some fall planting trees and shrubs. Producers were also irrigating new sets and seedlings and started planting small shrubs and arborvitae.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures were slowly recovering. More rain was needed. Producers were busy supplementing feed where needed, weaning and shipping spring calves, and tending to fall calving. Livestock were in good shape.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 10/30/11

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	7	25	67	1
Subsoil	13	25	62	0

Crop Condition - Week Ending 10/30/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	0	31	69	0
Range and pasture	9	14	33	41	3

Crop Progress - Week Ending 10/30/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	91	80	98	91
Winter wheat emerged	40	33	67	55
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.4	6.5	3.5	5.4

Western Oregon

CLACKAMAS: Foggy mornings early then first frost by midweek. Sunny afternoons raised sugar levels so most grapes were ok for the fermentation tanks. Pickers and crushers busy this week. Warm season vegetables like tomatoes and summer squash were done, but cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli harvests were going steadily. Harvest of root crops; carrots, turnips, rutabagas, and parsnips also started. Benefactors of the fall harvest will soon be, if not already, enjoying cider, grape juice, and pumpkin pie. The fair weather promoted operators to get some fall work done by pressure washing the harvest machines, greasing all the bearings, oiling the chains, changing oil, and filters, topping off fuel tanks on the diesels, draining tanks on the gas machines, and making notes on the blackboard in the shop for repairs needed before next year.

COOS/CURRY: No rain this week in Curry, but cool weather. Pastures were drying out again. Morning fog on the Coast and inland bottoms with the first frosts of the season (inland) a couple of mornings and rain over the weekend in Coos County. Low temperatures were slightly below the 5-year average in both Brookings (southern Curry) and Bandon (Coos County). High temperatures through the week were about 2 ½ degrees above the 5-year average in Brookings, and 2 ½ degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon. The grazing conditions continued fair to good for the most part. There were 5 days suitable for field work during the period. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Official Low temperature for the period in Bandon was 40.02 degrees, which is 0.63 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 64.24 degrees, 2.56 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.61 inches, which is 0.14 inches above the 5-year average for the week. Weather year 2012 (began 10/1/2011) precipitation stands at 3.13 inches, 0.50 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through the month of October is 4.07 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 43.21 degrees, 0.24 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 70.70 degrees, 2.23 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches compared to a 5-year average of 0.80 inches. Weather year 2012 (began 10/1/2011) precipitation stands at 7.77 inches, 2.99 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through October is 5.22 inches.

DOUGLAS: Another dry week allowed wine grape harvest to advance nicely. Harvest was about 50 percent complete. Unfortunately heavy frost and some freezing temperatures hit late developing wine grape crops. Canopies of vineyards were burned off making late sugar development in grapes unlikely at this point for any of the affected vineyards. Vines on hillsides mostly escaped freeze damage. Late developing apple and pear varieties seemed to be unaffected by the cold temperatures. Fall planted vegetable crops without frost protective covers were damaged by the cold. Cruciferous vegetables are frost hardy and escaped any low temperature damage.

JACKSON: Some ground preparation for fall grains and fall cover crops was still being done. Most all haying was done, but with the weather still being so dry and fair, there could be enough growth to make a light cutting. Most all pears and apples were picked. Vineyards were still doing some harvesting. We had a couple of very cold nights at or near freezing, so most summer vegetables were now done for the year. Some fall vegetables were still being harvested. Greenhouses were working on holiday decorative plants, or are getting started on fall maintenance. Nurseries were getting out some fall planting trees and shrubs. Some fall calving, and weaning of spring calves getting ready for sale for backgrounding. Fall pastures really need a good rain to keep the start from rain 2 weeks ago. The livestock in pastures looked to be in good shape. This was another very dry week, so good for getting outside work done. Some ground that had been in fallow for years was being worked-up, but not sure what may be planted. They looked as though a good supply of pumpkins had been available for use, and to decorate for Halloween.

JOSEPHINE: Overnight temperatures were between 26 and 40 degrees. Daytime temperatures between 50 and 75 degrees made it wonderful weather for working. There was heavy fog every morning. Animals were doing great in this weather. Many fall chores were getting done that are usually postponed with poor weather. Burns by the government were contributing to heavy fog in our area. Grape harvest continued, trying to get them in before the forecasted mid-week rains come.

LANE: Cold weather the last four mornings. Most of the warm season crops have been frosted. Apples were still doing well but nearing end of harvest. Hazelnuts were in mid harvest. Yields seemed mediocre. Pumpkins had a good crop. Fruit stands were nearing end of season.

MARION: First frost of the season this week. A lot of planting and field preparation took place with a week of dry weather.

WASHINGTON: Red and crimson clover seeding looked good, but the freezing temperatures did not affect the slugs. Field corn for silage finished. Most fall plantings of grass seed, clover, and wheat were emerging. All row crop harvesting was completed last week. Some blueberries were still available. Most filberts harvested. Sweet corn harvest for cannery finally finished. Producers were irrigating new settings and seedings, and started planting small shrubs and arbovitae. Most livestock were on supplemental feeding as pastures slowly recover. High temperature 58 degrees, low 34 degrees. Half inch of precipitation. Fall leaf color very nice.

YAMHILL: Hazelnut harvest continued. Late season apples were being harvested.

Eastern Oregon

HARNEY: Fall weather has arrived! Cooler temperatures in the mornings, freezing at night, still some sunshine in the afternoons. Most producers have finished haying and now they have started shipping cattle.

HOOD RIVER: Variable weather including intermittent rain prevailed through the week. A season-ending frost for many crops occurred on the morning of 10/26. Winter pear harvest continued in the upper Hood River Valley. Apple and wine grape harvest continued throughout the Valley. Harvest operations were disrupted by rain and slowed due to a continuing labor shortage.

LAKE: Received a small amount of precipitation over the weekend.

MALHEUR: First half of week the high temperatures were around 57 degrees, and lows around 30 degrees, which is about normal. The latter half highs were around 64 degrees and lows still cool at 30 to 38 degrees. No rain. The week finished up straggler fields of onions and potatoes. Sugarbeets and corn were the major crops remaining. Ditch water irrigation was off.

SHERMAN: We seemed to be in a period of transition. As farms get bigger, farmers get busier and have less time to cooperate in on farm trials. As equipment shifts more to direct seed, the traditional field trials become even more important but harder to find someone with the time it takes to mess with them. There were still a surprising number of acres to be seeded. There were also serious questions about the best variety to select for late seedings.

UMATILLA: County received the first freeze of the fall this week. Corn harvest continued and was entering the final stages. Winter wheat seeding is all but done; the remaining seemed to be the wet areas that may not dry out enough to seed this fall. Many producers have commented on how beneficial the rain we received earlier this month was to winter wheat seeding conditions.

WALLOWA: Cooler temperatures with some snow, nice fall days.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 30, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	34	60	49	-2	7	-7	0.96	-0.72	4	6.89	-1.48	82	28
Bandon ⁸	40	64	52	+1	19	-2	0.61	-0.75	3	3.77	-1.80	68	17
Crescent City	41	67	53	-2	22	-10	-	-1.61	-	5.28	-1.06	83	10
Florence	31	62	49	-4	8	-14	0.74	-1.09	2	7.23	-0.88	89	21
North Bend	36	66	52	-2	21	-6	0.34	-1.17	2	2.80	-3.34	46	15
Tillamook	34	64	50	-1	14	+0	0.72	-1.39	4	5.73	-4.81	54	29
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	32	61	49	-2	8	-3	0.56	-0.40	4	3.14	-1.71	65	29
Corvallis	33	64	50	+0	16	+3	0.38	-0.62	3	3.01	-1.45	67	21
Detroit Lake ⁸	29	63	48	+4	9	+4	1.28	-0.29	3	5.20	-1.71	75	19
Eugene	27	65	50	-2	19	+3	0.05	-1.11	1	1.93	-2.95	40	12
Hillsboro	29	63	47	-3	6	-4	0.19	-0.68	3	2.10	-2.09	50	23
McMinnville	32	64	50	-1	13	-1	0.28	-0.72	3	2.54	-2.15	54	22
Portland	36	63	51	-1	14	-4	0.41	-0.39	3	2.64	-1.65	62	24
Salem	30	64	50	+0	15	+4	0.25	-0.68	2	2.45	-1.93	56	19
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	28	71	49	-4	14	-11	-	-0.79	-	1.04	-2.15	33	6
Medford	27	71	52	+2	23	+4	-	-0.47	-	0.65	-1.62	29	5
Roseburg	32	68	52	+1	27	+3	0.03	-0.76	2	1.55	-1.81	46	12
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	23	65	44	-2	-	-2	0.03	-0.27	1	1.08	-0.60	64	11
Echo ⁸	23	65	45	-4	1	-6	0.02	-0.18	1	0.59	-0.42	58	10
Heppner	27	65	45	-3	3	-7	0.05	-0.23	1	1.07	-0.72	60	11
Hermiston	20	63	45	-4	7	+0	-	-0.20	-	0.58	-0.43	57	12
Madras ⁸	20	68	44	-3	5	-2	-	-0.21	-	0.44	-0.74	37	5
Moro	26	63	44	-2	2	-2	0.05	-0.18	1	0.94	-0.31	75	9
Parkdale ⁸	25	62	43	-5	-	-7	0.41	-0.30	2	2.50	-0.72	78	19
Pendleton	24	72	46	-3	8	-3	-	-0.26	-	0.88	-0.53	62	10
Prairie City ⁸	20	68	44	-3	5	-2	-	-0.21	-	0.44	-0.74	37	5
The Dalles	26	67	49	+4	15	+8	0.04	-0.21	1	0.95	-0.37	72	15
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	14	61	40	-3	-	+0	-	-0.40	-	0.36	-1.56	19	5
Bend	21	70	45	+2	11	+7	-	-0.21	-	0.16	-0.92	15	2
Burns	12	66	41	-1	3	+3	-	-0.21	-	1.39	0.14	111	7
Christmas Valley ⁸	5	67	38	-8	-	-7	0.02	-0.26	2	0.29	-1.23	19	5
Klamath Falls	19	65	41	-4	-	-6	-	-0.32	-	0.54	-1.02	35	3
Klamath Falls ⁸	21	67	43	-3	-	-6	-	-0.32	-	0.55	-1.01	35	5
Lakeview ⁸	15	64	39	-5	-	-3	-	-0.35	-	0.57	-1.20	32	7
Lorella ⁸	9	67	40	-6	-	-6	-	-0.32	-	0.46	-1.10	29	4
Redmond	10	69	42	-4	2	-4	-	-0.18	-	0.35	-0.57	38	4
Worden ⁸	11	66	40	-6	-	-6	-	-0.32	-	0.53	-1.03	34	5
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	12	61	37	-7	-	+0	-	-0.14	-	0.96	-0.38	72	7
Joseph	22	63	38	-1	1	+1	0.04	-0.47	3	1.87	-1.27	60	19
La Grande	19	59	40	-6	-	-7	0.07	-0.29	1	1.35	-0.84	62	13
Imbler ⁸	20	63	41	-4	-	-2	0.08	-0.43	2	1.87	-0.85	69	15
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	23	65	45	-2	5	-2	-	-0.18	-	1.28	0.17	115	7
Rome	15	68	42	-4	-	-5	-	-0.14	-	0.97	-0.15	87	6

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2011.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.